

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 AID-05

DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /091 W

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R 111326Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6620

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 16199

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJ: SOVIETS ANNOUNCE DOBRYNIN MIDDLE EAST DEMARCHE PUBLICLY

1. SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS NOVEMBER 11 FRONTPAGES WHAT APPEARS TO BE FULL TEXT OF DOBRYNIN'S NOVEMBER 9 DEMARCHE TO SECRETARY ON MIDDLE EAST. THIS WAS ALSO READ IN FULL ON NOVEMBER 10 EVENING NEWS VREMYA.

2. COMMENT. AS WE READ IT, THIS IS FIRST FORMAL SOVIET PROPOSAL TO RECONVENE GENEVA. SIMILARLY, IT REPRESENTS CLEAR SOVIET STIPULATION THAT PLO, AS PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVE, WILL PARTICIPATE AS EQUAL PARTY FROM THE VERY BEGINNING. IT ALSO IS PROBABLY CALCULATED TO CONSTITUTE SOVIET REJECTION OF INFORMAL MULTI-LATERAL APPROACH, AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING.

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3. SINCE THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE LITTLE CHANCE OF

OVERCOMING ISRAELI OBJECTIONS TO PLO PARTICIPATION, THIS MOVE WOULD SEEM TO IMPLY THAT SOVIETS ARE RECONCILED TO MIDDLE EAST IMPASSE FOR AT LEAST NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS. BY GOING PUBLIC IN THIS MANNER THE SOVIETS ARE PROBABLY ATTEMPTING TO ENSURE THAT THEY WILL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS IMPASSE WITHIN THE ARAB WORLD.

4. MAJOR SOVIET AIM AT THIS POINT, WITH CPSU 25TH CONGRESS APPROACHING IN FEBRUARY, IS PROBABLY TO KEEP MIDDLE EAST UNDER CONTROL. IN THIS REGARD, WE WOULD EXPECT SOVIETS TO PURSUE ACTIVE CONSULTATIONS IN AN ATTEMPT TO KEEP SYRIANS AND PALESTINIANS IN LINE AND TO INCREASE SUPPORT WITH IRAQIS AND OTHERS IN MIDDLE EAST. AT SAME TIME, SOVIETS WILL BE HOPING THAT CONTINUED PRESSURE BY OTHER ARABS ON EGYPT TO FORM A UNITED FRONT WILL NUDGE SADAT AWAY FROM PRO-WESTERN LINE AND PROBABLY SEE THIS CALL FOR FORMAL RECONVENING OF GENEVA AS A STEP IN THAT DIRECTION.
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